

1943 May 15 Saturday

Bill - Jean & Patty came down the Lincoln walk about 4 o'clock. They arrived from Fresno via Palo Alto, S.F. - Palo Alto about an hour earlier & had unpacked & left their car at the house.

The baby is very pretty, very good, & very very sweet & charming. I'd been exceedingly busy all day & still had much to do; but I dropped everything of course. When we got home I phoned to Mrs. Brewer to get hold of Mary, who said she'd be in tomorrow morning.

I went to Paul's & had a hasty dinner with Bob & Leta & his stepmother, & then back to house to stay with Patty while Bill & Jean went to Monterey for dinner.

The baby was good as gold, sleeping mostly. The have-a-night-the-fair parents returned about 11. I'd just gone to bed. Had a short talk with Bill re his army induction.

Earlier in the day I finished some deal at the bank & sent final instructions (re Harvards loan) to title co.

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Mary phoned in evening she wouldn't be able to come in tomorrow morning after all, as she hadn't found it possible to cancel workers coming, or to get anyone to take her shift or observation post, so only chance was to come in on home bus & go back about 3. I was rather annoyed, as it's her only chance to see the baby & last chance to see Bill maybe for a long time.

1943 May 16 Sunday

Up at 7 & watched Patty being fed with
a spoon. She is adorable. Very much like
Bill as a baby, only prettier. She is small &
sweet & full of brightness & goodness.

Bill stayed in bed - in living room - till
after 8:30. I fixed for him a toast for
him & jam, with coffee & jam & snails.

They went to the beach for awhile, returning
about 2:30. I made a luncheon for them
& played with the sweet baby while they ate.

Mary had phoned about 1:30 that she'd
missed the bus & couldn't come in at all.
I suggested she phone at 3 to say goodbye
to Bill. She did.

I could hardly bear to see Bill go, and
the baby has cuddled deep into my heart.
They're leaving back to Fresno, & Bill reports
^{that} at 8:30 tomorrow morning for the army. He'll
come to Monterey Presidio with others (on a bus)

May 16 / 2

Jan couldn't very well drive back to
Farms with the baby; Arthur Bill could have
stayed here & waited at Monterey & saved
the 2 long trips. But I guess he wanted
to be sure they were safe back in their home.

This is anniversary of mamma's birth. I
wish she could see Patsy, her great grand-
daughter. She would ~~have~~ loved her, of
course; but more than that: there would have
been the bond of 2 blithe spirits.

1943 May 17 Monday

Bill was to phone me from the Presidio; but I suppose it's not easy & the new groups are doubtless under heavy routine. Anyway I've heard nothing from him.

Made some frames for a customer.

Gave plans for new bookshelves to Constable's shop foreman & got them well started.

Spent afternoon in shop.

And I'm not happy.

1943 May 18 Tuesday

Chamlee came to work & I & we put in the whole day scrubbing the entire inside of the old Yates stock room & toilet. We got ~~them~~ very clean, working with gold dust in hot water & then hosing & sweeping out the water.

Jack, on his return from work, said he saw Bill & talked with him. Says Bill was very downhearted.

I phoned the President as soon as I got home & asked to speak with him, but he couldn't be located.

I phoned again a half hour later, but no luck. However, I found I could see him tomorrow in the visitors' hall.

1943 May 19 Wednesday

Mary phoned in morning, and will come in on noon bus & will go over to Monterey.

Bill phoned about 9:30 & I told him I'd be in waitress hall at 4.

We were, but were told he wouldn't be free till 6. So we went shopping & returned at 5:55. Bill was "paged" & showed up about 6:15. He looked well in his fatigue uniform & seemed bravely cheerful in a quiet way. At least he'll make the best of it. He had not a word of complaint, & was even interested in some of the ordinary routine. The only indications he gave of his deeper feelings were the slight movement of his hands and one remark he made:

"The first few days are the hardest,

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while your thoughts are still back in your home."

He said he wrote to Jean every day.

We asked if he needed anything — books, food, personal effects. The army gives everything (except haircuts!) he said.

We told him if Jean & the baby needed anything — money, for instance, we'd gladly slip another mortgage on our property; but he said he'd made \$300 extra lately & had made a year's payments in advance on their French home & had left Jean \$500.

We kissed him goodbye & left after an hour. It was sweet the way he kissed me of his own accord, just as if he were still ten years old.

He may be sent off for basic

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training tomorrow a next day, but perhaps
I'll see him again before he goes. He'll
phone as soon as he knows.

Mary cooked some white bait for
supper but it hadn't much flavor for me.

The bookshelves are finished & in the
shop, but must be painted as soon as I
can get time.

Bill says he passed his I. Q. test with
144 out of a possible 160 — the highest
of any of his group.

1943 May 20 Thursday

Rain morning, with light fog.

May sewed some shirt ties & we discussed
Pelles business & then to village.

May left at noon & I spent rest of
day in shop.

Duncan Vails' traveler came unexpectedly
& took us over for art materials.

Home at 6 & cleared some of the west field
with a grub-hoe, put up a sweet & took a
shower.

No word from Bill.

Accompanied by high winds, hail and tremendous electrical discharges, the storm struck at 1:45 o'clock. By 3:48 o'clock, 3.16 inches of rain had fallen, more precipitation than during the entire month of July. The temperature fell 19 degrees in less than an hour.

Storm sewers failed. Pent waters in underpasses and low places effectively blocked traffic in almost every direction from the center of the city. Rain, hail, wind and streets running curbstome deep with water stopped pedestrian traffic, too. The hail, pea size, fell from 2:30 until 2:45 o'clock.

Caveins, washouts, flooded yards and basements were reported in every section. Wires fell, utility poles burned, tree trunks and branches crashed. Compressed air tossed sewer lids and manhole covers high in the air.

State Records Lost.

Heavy damage to priceless
archives was reported at

Libre

1943 May 21 Friday

Up early & was very busy all day, getting
work at 8:15 to get dinner.

Washed clothes

Emptied service coat

Burned rubbish (& there were 3 bombs or
cartridges in it that exploded!)

Paid some bills

Sent off 2 involved orders

Did a week's food shopping, some for Robles

Kept shop

No word from Bill.

Warm day, pleasant after the cold spell
so unexpected in late May.

Admiral Yamamoto, it is mort.

Had sweet tender chard from garden.